

Message Text

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TO ALL EAST ASIAN AND PACIFIC DIPLOMATIC POSTS

AMEMBASSY MOSCOW

AMCONSUL NAHA

INFO CINCPAC

COGARD

TREASURY

GOVGUAM

XMT AMEMBASSY SUVA

AMEMBASSY RANGOON

UNCLAS STATE 005673

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TAGS: PFOR, XC, US

SUBJECT: JANUARY 9 EA PRESS SUMMARY

1. ALL PAPERS HIGHLIGHT CHOU EN-LAI DEATH; GLOBE, WP, NYT HAVE MULTI-PAGE COVERAGE INCLUDING, LIKE OTHERS, EXTENSIVE PLAY ON OFFICIAL PRC OBIT, CHOU CAREER OUTLINE, PHOTOS OF PREMIER WITH WORLD FIGURES, EXPRESSIONS CONDOLENCES BY PRES FORD, HAK, WALDHEIM, NIXON, OTHERS; ALSO BIOS, PHOTOS OF TENG HSIAO-PING. CHITRIB, PHINQ BANNER CHOU'S DEATH; NYDN HAS INSIDE TWO-PAGE PHOTOS SPREAD COVERING CHOU'S LIFE, MEETINGS WITH INTERNATIONAL LEADERS, ETC.

NESSEN SAYS PRES PLANNING WRITE CONDOLENCE LETTERS TO MAO TSE-TUNG, CHOU'S WIDOW AND TENG; ADDS THAT WH AWAITING WORD ON PEKING'S PLANS FOR CHOU RITES BEFORE UNCLASSIFIED

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DECIDING ON US REPRESENTATION, BUT UNLIKELY FORD WOULD ATTEND (PHINQ). PRES CALLS CHOU "REMARKABLE LEADER" WHO HAS LEFT IMPRINT ON WORLD SCENE; HAK ECHOED PRAISE, AGREED WITH PRES THERE WILL BE NO CHANGE IN SINO-US RELATIONS

(UPI GLOBE). CHINESE EMBASSY IN TOKYO SAYS CHOU FUNERAL IN PEKING THURSDAY (REUTER, SUN).

IN PEKING, REUTER'S ROGERS OBSERVES CITY'S PEOPLE "APPEARED TO BE UNAWARE OF THE NEWS" FRIDAY; HOURS AFTER ANNOUNCEMENT CHOU'S DEMISE, THERE WAS NO FLICKER OF PUBLIC REACTION IN CAPITAL'S DARKENED, FREEZING STREETS; ASKED IF HE WAS AWARE OF NEWS, ONE PEKING PEDESTRIAN STARED BACK IN TOTAL DISBELIEF. LATER, ROGERS NOTED THAT APART FROM FLAGS FLYING AT HALF MAST AND BLACK-BORDERED NEWSPAPERS, PEKING STILL APPEARED UNTOUCHED BY CHOU'S DEATH; IN FACE OF GRAVEST LOSS PRC HAS SUFFERED, CHINESE MAINTAINED CUSTOMARY DISCIPLINED PUBLIC IMAGE. BUT IN PRIVATE, SOME WERE CLEARLY MOVED BY EVENT.

REUTER (PARIS) REPORTS GISCARD D'ESTAING TRIBUTE TO CHOU'S "GREAT SPARK AND DISTINCTION OF HIS INTELLIGENCE," AND NOTES ITALIAN CP SENT CCP BRIEF CONDOLENCES CABLE; REPORTS (OTTAWA) TRUDEAU EXPRESSED DEEP SADNESS ON BEHALF OF CANADIAN GOVT. SEN KENNEDY SAYS CHOU'S DEATH REMOVES FIGURE WHO AIDED GREATLY IN HEALING SINO-US BREACH, AND VITAL THAT US BUILD NEW RELATIONSHIP WITH NEW PRC LEADERS (UPI, GLOBE; PHINQ).

REUTER (PEKING) REPORTS PRC APPEARS TO HAVE TAKEN MAJOR DECISION TO MOVE PART OF WARPLANE INDUSTRY TO CENTRAL CITY OF SIAN, FARTHER AWAY FROM SOVIET BORDER. NOTES TEAM OF ROLLS ROYCE EXPERTS HAS LEFT FOR SIAN TO ADVISE ON SITES FOR PRODUCTION OF FIRM'S SPEY TUROFAN JET ENGINE (SUN, WP).

GROC DECREED THURSDAY THAT PERSONS ACCUSED OF ARMED ROBBERY WILL BE TRIED IN MIL COURTS AND BE SENTENCED TO DEATH IF CONVICTED (UPI,NYDN).

2. INDOCHINA
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UN WORLD FOOD PROGRAM PLANS SPEND 1.06 MILLION DOLS HELP PEOPLE IN FLOOD-STRICKEN AREA NEAR DANANG, PLUS 1.2 MILLION TO ASSIST REHABILITATION REFUGEES (REUTER, WP).

FIRST GROUP EUR TOURISTS SINCE WAR'S END RETURN FROM 3-WK TRIP TO NVN. TELL PRESS CONFERENCE STUDIED RECONSTRUCTION (REUTER COPENHAGEN).

3. THAILAND

NYT'S ANDELMAN AT BANGKOK REPORTS KUKRIT SHUFFLED CABINET, CALLED FOR SPECIAL PARLIAMENT SESSION NEXT WK TO DISCUSS POLITICAL, SECURITY SITUATION IN COUNTRY. NEW PARTY

BROUGHT INTO COALITION IN EFFORT STABILIZE GOVT; PM TOOK OVER INT MINISTRY IN MOVE SEEN AS WAY ALLAY CONCERN IN MANY QUARTERS OVER INCREASING NUMBER, INTENSITY RECENT ATTACKS IN BORDER AREAS BY THIEVES, MILITANT MOSLEMS, COMMUNISTS.

4. TIMOR/INDONESIA

AUSSIE INTELL ANALYSTS BELIEVE OVER 450 INDO TROOPS KIA MAINLY IN GUERRILLA RAIDS, AMBUSHES. CASUALTIES INDICATE 15-20,000 GOI FORCE UNABLE SUBDUE 3000-MAN FRETELIN ARMY. ADD THAT JAKARTA TROOPS UNABLE CONTROL LARGE AREAS IN COLONY, HAVE HAD LIMITED SUCCESS UNCOVERING ARMS, FOOD DUMPS. GOI ADMITTED LAST WKEND 50-100 "VOLUNTEERS" KILLED IN TIMOR (WP).

BANK AMERICA SIGNS 162 MILLION DOL LOAN WITH GOI FOR DEVELOPMENT TELECOMMUNICATIONS SYSTEM LINKING HABITABLE ISLANDS. SUHARTO TELLS PARLIAMENT FORCED BORROW ONE BILLION DOLS OVER PAST YR TO MAKE UP PERTAMINA LOSSES; HAD ADVERSE EFFECTS ON INDO STATE REVENUES, FOREX RESERVES, LOAN BURDEN, DOMESTIC CREDIT (UPI, JOC).

5. AUSTRALIA/NEW ZEALAND

AUSSIE TREASURER SAYS DEVALUATION UNNECESSARY, NOT PART UNCLASSIFIED

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GOVT'S STRATEGY. BANK NSW marginally INCREASES NET PROFIT DESPITE DIFFICULT ECON CONDITIONS; IMPROVEMENT MAINLY DUE HIGHER PROFITS CONTRIBUTED BY SUBSIDIARY FINANCE COMPANY, LOWER TAX RATES. ONE-BRAND GAS STATIONS DECLARED TECHNICALLY ILLEGAL, BUT RETURN TO MULTI-BRAND STATIONS APPEARS UNLIKELY (JOC). GM REALIGNS AUSSIE OPERATIONS TO ENABLE LOCAL BORROWING RATHER THAN BRING IN US CAPITAL (STOVE, JOC).

NEW GOVTS IN CANBERRA, WELLINGTON REVIEW AUSSIE-NZ TRADE. EXISTING COMMERCE BALANCED 2-TO-1 IN AUSSIE FAVOR. GOA HOPES FOR MORE EXPORTS MANUFACTURED GOODS TO REDUCE DOMESTIC UNEMPLOYMENT; GONZ PLEDGED IMPOSE STIFF IMPORT RESTRICTIONS TO REDUCE BOP PROBLEMS (STOVE, JOC).

6. SINGAPORE

"AREA LICENSING SCHEME" AFTER 6 MOS REDUCES OR ELIMINATES TRAFFIC JAMS; EXPERTS FROM AROUND WORLD COME TO STUDY OPERATION. CARS WITH 4 PERSONS HAVE FREE ACCESS DOWNTOWN AREA, OTHERS PAY FEE, PARK OUTSIDE, SHUTTLE IN. RESULTS HAVE BEEN FEWER VEHICLES IN BUSINESS DISTRICT, SEVERAL

COMPANIES RELOCATE OUTSIDE RESTRICTED ZONE, MORE USE
PUBLIC TRANSPORT, AUTO ASSN MEMBERSHIP DROPS (AP, CSM).

7. JAPAN

SUN STAFFER (TOKYO)NOTES GROMYKO ARRIVES JAPAN JAN 9
ON FIVE-DAY VISIT, TO DISCUSS PEACE TREATY WITH
MIYAZAWA.

CULLISON (JOC) IN TOKYO CITES MOT SOURCES SAYING TOLD
UK , FRANCE "WOULD BE DIFFICULT" UNDER CIVAIR LAW "NOT
TO BAN" SST FROM LANDING IN JAPAN IF AND WHEN APPLICATION
FILED. NOTES EVEN TEST FLIGHTS SEEM PROHIBITED UNDER
EXISTING CIRCUMSTANCES.

YEAREND SALES DATA RELEASED BY AUTO INDUSTRY SHOW TOYOTA
OUTSOLD VW IN US MARKET LAST YEAR FOR FIRST TIME,
283,909 UNITS TO 267,718. SALES OF NO. 3 IMPORT, DATSUN,
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UP 39 PCT, TO 263,000 UNITS. SIX JAPANESE IMPORTS HAD
COMBINED RECORD SALES OF 817,000, ACCOUNTING FOR MORE
THAN HALF ALL IMPORTS (AP CHITRIB, NYT, GLOBE).

LINDSEY (NYT SPECIAL FROM LA) QUOTES FORECAST BY
TOYOTA EXEC THAT JAPANESE AUTO EXPORTS TO US WILL
CONTINUE "SURGE" THIS YEAR, BUT NOT AT SAME RATE AS LAST.
SAYS JAPANESE SALES STRATEGY WILL STRESS QUALITY IN SMALL
CAR IMPORTS, SUPERIOR TO COMPETITIVE MODELS DETROIT
NOW BUILDING.

JAPAN AUTO MFRS ASSN SAYS NEW CAR REGISTRATION IN JAPAN
ROSE 19 PCT IN 1975, TO 3.7 MILLION UNITS, DESPITE
PROTRACTED BUSINESS SLUMP. SHARP INCREASE DUE LAST-
MINUTE BUYING BEFORE STIFFER EMISSION CONTROLS WENT INTO
EFFECT DEC (WSJ, TOKYO).

REVERE COPPER SAYS SIX JAPANESE PARTNERS DECLINED PROPOSAL
JOIN IN EXPANSION OF FIRM'S ALUMINA PLANT IN JAMAICA.
ALSO POSTPONED DECISION PARTICIPATE IN EXPANSION OF
REVERE PLANT SCOTTSBORO, ALA. "EXTREMELY HIGH
INVENTORIES," WEAK DOMESTIC DEMAND FOR ALUMINUM SEEN AS
REASON (WSJ).

MITI OFFICIAL TELLS CAUSTIC SODA MFRS ASSN DOW CHEMICAL
BID PRODUCE SODA COULD NOT BE REJECTED WITHOUT RISKING
JAPAN'S STANDING IN INTL TRADE. SEEN AS BOOST FOR
CONTROVERSIAL APPLICATION BY DOW, NOW PENDING AT MITI
(WSJ, TOKYO).

BABCOCK & WILCOX AGREES PROVIDE SUMITOM-FURUKAWA JOINT
VENTURE, NUCLEAR FUEL INDUSTRIES, WITH DESIGN,

MANUFACTURING EXPERTISE FOR CONSTRUCTION NUCLEAR REACTOR
SYSTEMS (JOC)

CHITRIB'S MAGGIE DALY SAYS "PLAYBOY" HAS "LOT OF NEW
BUSINESS" IN JAPAN, INCLUDING JAPANESE EDITION OF
MAGAZINE. ALSO BUILDING NEW HOTEL, CLUB.

8. KOREA

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ECON PLANNING BUREAU SAID TUESDAY ROK EXPECTS TRADE
DEFICIT DECLINE THIS YEAR BY 529 MILLION DOLS, TO 900
MILLION DOLS. SEES EXPORTS EXPANDING 29 PCT, TO 6.5
BILLION DOLS; IMPORTS 14 PCT, TO 7.4 BILLION DOLS.
ALSO EXPECTS "CONSIDERABLE IMPROVEMENT" IN BOP, IN
EXPECTATION OF GRADUAL RECOVERY WORLD ECONOMY (JOC, SEOUL).

COMMENT AND ANALYSIS

10. CHINA

NYT CALLS CHOU ONE OF MORE FAR-SIGHTED STATESMEN OF 20TH
CENTURY, OPINES HE AND MAO MORE CHINESE THAN MARXIST.
ADMIRE CHOU'S FLEXIBILITY, TALENT; BELIEVES CONTRIBUTION
TOWARD RESTORATION REPPROCHEMENT WILL RANK AS ONE OF
HIS MAJOR ACCOMPLISHMENTS. SUN REVIEWS CHOU'S
REMARKABLE CAREER, CREDITS HIM WITH PREPARING SUCCESSION
BY REHABILITATING TENG; BELIEVES CHOU'S DEATH SENDS
CHINA INTO UNPREDICTABLE TRANSITION. NYDN WONDERS,
"AFTER CHOU, WHAT?" POINTS OUT OLD ORDER WILL VIRTUALLY
VANISH WITH MAO'S DEATH; SAYS CHANGE MAY FUNDAMENTALLY
AFFECT US-PRC RELS, SINCE NO ONE KNOWS FOR SURE IF NEW
LEADERS WILL CONTINUE CHOU'S POLICY OF TIES WITH US OR
WORK TO RESTORE FORMER ALLIANCE WITH USSR.

TERRILL (GLOBE) SEES LOSS OF KNOWN QUANTITY FOR US IN
CHOU'S DEATH; REVIEWS ACCOMPLISHMENTS, NOTES PRC, WORLD,
WILL FIND THINGS BIT MORE UNCERTAIN. DOES NOT BELIEVE
ABRUPT CHANGES IN PRC POLICY LIKELY. THINKS COLLECTIVE
LEADERSHIP INEVITABLE FOR PRC OF 1980S, SINCE NO ONE WILL
REPLACE MAO. PREDICTS CHOU'S DEMISE BEFORE MAO WILL ADD
EXTRA TENSION IN POST-MAO MONTHS. SEES TENG NOT CHOU
COPY -- SINCE LACKS INTL STATURE, DOES NOT ENJOY SAME
AFFECTION AT HOME, LACKS CHOU'S CONCILIATORY SKILLS,
DOES NOT HAVE STAKE CHOU HAD IN MAKING NEW LINK WITH
US WORK.

GLOBE'S MCCAIN REPORTS CHINA SCHOLARS DO NOT EXPECT CHOU'S
DEATH WILL CAUSE IMMEDIATE OR DRAMATIC CHANGES IN PRC
DOMESTIC OR FOREIGN POLICIES, INCLUDING RELATIONS WITH US.
THEY PREDICT FAIRLY SMOOTH TRANSITION WITH TENG

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SUCCEEDING CHOU, CONTINUING MAO POLICIES; BUT IN LONG RUN, SCHOLARS AGREE LOSS OF CHOU'S INTERNATIONAL PERSPECTIVE, FORMIDABLE DIPLOMATIC SKILLS, WILL CHANGE "CHEMISTRY" OF PRC LEADERSHIP AND DEALINGS WITH REST OF WORLD. QUOTES JOHN FAIRBANK THAT FOR PRC TO HAVE CHOU AT TOP WAS "TREMENDOUS INSURANCE. HE WAS A REALIST. . ." LUCIEN PYE SAYS CHINESE LEADERS HAVE BEEN PREPARED FOR CHOU'S DEATH, QUESTION IS HOW WELL THEY HAVE PREPARED-- "HAVE THEY, IN FACT, BEEN ABLE TO PUT TOGETHER A POWER STRUCTURE THAT WILL HOLD?" ACCORDING PYE, MUCH DEPENDS ON "HOW CLEAR-HEADED MAO IS"--CHAIRMAN "MUST BE FILLED WITH AN OLD MAN'S FEARS ABOUT WHOM HE CAN RELY ON."

MCCAIN REPORTS ROXANE WITKE'S VIEW THAT PRC HAS NOT PRODUCED ANYONE ELSE WITH CHOU'S RANGE OF DIPLOMATIC SKILLS, SO HIS DEATH IS GREAT LOSS IN THAT RESPECT. ADDS THAT INTERNALLY, COUNTRY HAS LOST POWERS OF GREAT RECONCILER, KEEN, FLEXIBLE IMPLEMENTOR--TENG DOES NOT HAVE THAT EXPERIENCE, THOSE GIFTS; SAYS CHIANG CHING WILL FEEL LOSS. STRESSING LONG-RANGE IMPORTANCE OF CHOU'S DEATH, DOAK BARNETT SAYS HE ACTUALLY RAN COUNTRY ON DAY-TO-DAY BASIS; "WHEN YOU REMOVE HIM, IT OBVIOUSLY CHANGES THE PICTURE. CHINA WILL BE DIFFERENT BECAUSE HE DIED."

SUN'S ISAACS LABELS CHOU PRC'S "INDISPENSABLE MAN" AND ONE OF "MOST EXTRAORDINARY POLITICAL LEADERS OF ALL TIME." ACCORDING WSJ'S BACON, WHILE CHOU'S DEATH PROBABLY WON'T HAVE IMMEDIATE IMPACT ON SINO-US RELATIONS, UNCLEAR HOW LONG WARMTH CAN BE ASSURED. NOTES MAO 82, IN FAILING HEALTH; FEELS IT LIKELY MAO'S DEATH WILL BE FAR MORE DISRUPTIVE TO PRC, BOTH BECAUSE OF HIS PROMINENT ROLE AS COMMUNIST REVOLUTION LEADER/PHILOSOPHER AND BECAUSE NO HEIR APPARENT.

BUTTERFIELD (NYT, IN HK) CITES VIEW OF ANALYSTS THERE THAT BESIDES TENG, MOST IMPORTANT FIGURE ON PRC SCENE NOW MAY BE CHANG CHUN-CHIAO, WHOM SOME CHINESE COMPARE TO CHOU--ALTHOUGH HOW WELL TENG AND CHANG GET ALONG TOGETHER IS FREQUENT MATTER OF CONJECTURE. SAYS BEYOND THESE TWO, POSSIBLE MAKE-UP OF TRANSITIONAL LEADERSHIP GROWS MORE UNCLASSIFIED

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UNCERTAIN, BUT CITES CHU TEH, YEH CHIEN-YING AND WANG HUNG-WEN AS "QUESTION MARKS."

NYDN'S WIEGHART MAINTAINS CHOU'S DEATH NOT LIKELY AFFECT IMPROVING SINO-US RELATIONS. BUT NOTES CHINA EXPERTS

IN WASHINGTON ALSO CONCEDE THEY CANNOT RULE OUT POSSIBILITY OF POWER STRUGGLE DEVELOPING AFTER MAO'S DEATH BETWEEN TENG AND SOME SHANGHAI RADICALS IN GPCR VANGUARD.

AMB BRUCE SAYS CHOU WAS ONE OF MOST REMARKABLE STATESMEN OF MODERN TIMES WHO DEMONSTRATED NEAR GENIUS IN CIVIL GOVT ADMINISTRATION AND WHO POSSESSED DAZZLING PERSONALITY, REMARKABLE BREADTH OF KNOWLEDGE (REUTER BRUSSELS).

PROF HSU TSE-YU OF NATL TAIWAN U WRITES TO CSM THAT US TREATS ROC LIKE 10TH COUSIN, CHINESE COMMUNISTS AS FIRST. NOTES PRES, SECSTATE DID NOT STOP AT TAIWAN WHEN IN NEIGHBORHOOD. WONDERS HOW US PUBLIC, CONGRESS TOLERATE IGNORING ROC, PLAYING UP TO POTENTIAL ENEMIES. IN SAME PAPER, NEWMAN LEE OF SF IN LETTER STATES NO DOUBT TAIWAN PART OF CHINA, SO ROC-PRC AFFAIRS ARE DOMESTIC MATTERS AND UP TO THEM TO RESOLVE DIFFERENCES. BELIEVES US MIL PRESENCE IN TAIWAN IS INVOLVEMENT IN CHINA'S INTERNAL AFFAIRS; SAYS HAS NOT SERVED US INTEREST IN PAST, PERPETUATION WILL DAMAGE NATL INTEREST FURTHER.

11. THAILAND

LAT'S MCARTHUR AT BANGKOK (1/8) REVIEWS RECENT KUKRIT CRISIS OVER ATTEMPT RAISE RICE PRICE, SAYS GOVT EMERGED WITH COMPROMISE NO ONE UNDERSTANDS, SO FACE SAVED ALL AROUND. PM PLEDGES GET FARMERS MORE MONEY BY SQUEEZING MIDDLEMAN, BUT FEW DOUBT RICE WILL COST MORE SOON. CONSIDERS RICE QUESTION INCIDENTAL TO POLITICAL GAME BEING PLAYED BY RIGHT, LEFT. STATES KUKRIT CONTRIBUTES TO INSTABILITY BY INDECISION DOMESTICALLY, APPEASEMENT TOWARD COMMUNIST REGIMES IN LAOS, CAMBODIA. MCARTHUR SAYS KUKRIT KNOWS HOW TO PLAY GAME: BEGUILLES MILITANTS WITH COMPROMISES, SPLITS POLITICIANS WITH PROMISE JOBS, SPOILS. CONCLUDES WEEK'S EVENTS DON'T PROVE MUCH, BUT SHOWED MILITANT LEFT UNCLASSIFIED

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CONTINUING POPULAR DECLINE, FAR RIGHT LACKS INTELLIGENT LEADERSHIP, NATL PURPOSE, WHILE APATHY GOES ON PLAYING MAJOR ROLE IN THAI POLITICS. WONDERS WHETHER PM WILL USE STRENGTH IN TRADITIONAL POLITICS TO ATTACK BASIC PROBLEMS OF RESTRUCTURING THREATENED COUNTRY IN POST-VN ERA.

12. JAPAN

CSM'S BETH POND PERCEIVES MOSCOW "SMILING RATHER THAN FROWNING" AS GROMYKO BEGINS TOKYO VISIT; BUT NOTES FOREIGN

DIPLOMATS DO NOT EXPECT ANY REAL MOVEMENT IN SOV-JAPAN RELATIONS RESULT. REMINDS THAT SOV "HAS BEEN PUBLICLY TOUGH" WITH JAPAN IN OPPOSING ANTI-HEGEMONY CLAUSE IN

PROPOSED JAPAN-PRC FRIENDSHIP TREATY, AND PAST OCTOBER REVERTED TO PRE-1971 HARD-LINE WHEN GROMYKO STATED JAPAN'S CLAIMS TO NORTHERN ISLANDS "UNGROUND" AND "WILL INVARIABLY BE DESERVEDLY REJECTED." STILL, NOTES PRAVDA PRAISED SOV-JAPAN ECON TIES JAN 8, WITHOUT MENTIONING POLITICAL DIFFERENCES, AND WITHOUT POINTING OUT BILATERAL TRADE DID NOT EXPAND MUCH IN 1975.

13. KOREA

NORMAN THORPE (SPECIAL TO CSM) IN SEOUL PRAISES KOREAN POTTERY, HIGHLY VALUED TODAY AS IN 12TH CENTURY. QUOTES LYRICAL SHORT STORY BY HWOANG SUN-WON THAT DESCRIBES PROCESS BY WHICH "THE OLD JAR MAKER" PRODUCED THICK EARTHENWARE POTS FOR HOUSEHOLD USE.

14. NEW ZEALAND

CSM'S CARTHEW SEES NZ DREAM OF NUCLEAR-FREE ZONE IN S PAC FADING UNDER DISAPPROVAL NEW GOVT, AUSTRALIA, US. OPINES MULDOON GOVT MUST TREAD CAREFULLY IN DROPPING WHAT IT CALLS "PIPE DREAM" TO AVOID UPSETTING PAC ISLAND NEIGHBORS.

15. ASEAN

CSM SPECIAL BELIEVES ORGANIZATION RAPIDLY ACHIEVING UNCLASSIFIED

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UNITED FRONT, WITH SUMMIT SCHEDULED NEXT MONTH. OBSERVERS SAY STRONG POSSIBILITY OUTCOME WILL BE REGIONAL FREE-TRADE ZONE, IF NOT DEFENSE PACT. CITES 2 REASONS ASEAN NATIONS FORCED SET ASIDE DIFFERENCES: WITHDRAWAL US MIL PRESENCE; PRC'S UNCHECKED POWER, WITH SUPPORT COMMUNIST INSURGENCIES. KISSINGER

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